

Talking Points for Ambassador Chaudhry  
Ceremony to Donate Equipment to MOI  
Tuesday, February 3, 16:30

Minister Papuc, Deputy Minister Cosovan, distinguished guests,  
ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to be part of this milestone event in the fight against corruption. Our aim - both in the United States and here in Moldova - is to create government that is more democratic, more effective, and more accountable to its citizens.

We are here today to mark a donation of equipment from the United States Government to the Republic of Moldova. The computers and investigative equipment that we are donating today will enable the Institute to train investigators in modern methods of crime-scene analysis, using state-of-the-art photography and fingerprinting equipment. The multimedia equipment will allow the Institute to train more investigators more effectively.

We are also providing equipment and information technology that will increase the effectiveness of investigations into corruption. The new computers and investigative equipment will create a secure communications channel for police to share sensitive investigative information with the Ministry of Interior's Internal Affairs division.

For example, personnel at the crime scene will now be able to use mini-handheld laptops to send pictures and information over a secure connection to Ministry headquarters. They will no longer have to use public telephone lines or public fax machines that are easily accessible to those who are being investigated.

As a result, we can expect more effective investigations, greater accountability of public servants, and higher standards for personnel. Over time, this will translate into better governance and more trust of the people in government.

This is just one way that we are supporting the Government of Moldova's Threshold Country Program.

Since 2007 this Program has represented a partnership between our governments to help prevent and detect corruption. In just two short years the Program's new tools and methodologies have moved from the planning stage to reality.

Through the Threshold Country Program, the United States has provided technical and material assistance to the Ministry of Interior's Institute for Continuous Professional Training. Together, our advisory team and the Ministry's Training Institute have developed a course for personnel who are investigating internal corruption committed by police officers or by individuals in the Ministry.

We all know that there is much still to be done. Corruption remains a major obstacle to prosperity, whether it is in Moldova or in the United States. We are pleased to be working together with Moldova in these efforts.

I want to thank the Ministry of Interior and all the dedicated professionals who have contributed thus far to the success of the Threshold Country Program. I also want to recognize the tireless work of our advisory team, members of which have contributed their experience and their hearts to make this project a success.

Thank you and congratulations.